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JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE—SHAKESPEARE.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—TWENTY-NINE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—THE PRINCE OF AFRICA.

MOOREY THEATRE—THE TWO ORPHEUS.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—ROBESON.

HILLER'S THEATRE—PRODIGES.

BOOTH'S THEATRE—JAMES CLARK.

COLUMBIA OPERA HOUSE—VARIETY.

TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE—FERNANDO.

TIVOLI THEATRE—VARIETY.

TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE—COMIC OPERA.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN—VARIETY.

NEW YORK AQUARIUM—QUEEN PLAZA.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1877.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY DEALERS.

The Adams Express Company run a special newspaper train over the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections, leaving Jersey City at a quarter past four A. M. daily and Sunday, carrying the regular edition of the HERALD as far West as Harrisburg and South to Washington reaching Philadelphia at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at one P. M.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather in New York today will be cool and cloudy or partly cloudy, possibly with light rain, and followed by colder and clearing weather.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Yesterday was a quiet day on the Stock Exchange, and the closing prices as compared with those of Saturday showed but little change. Gold opened and closed at 106 7/8, all sales in the meantime being made at that figure. Government stocks were quiet and in some cases lower, while railroad bonds were strong and higher. Money on call was easy at 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent, the closing rates being the lowest of the day.

THE PARADE of the Sunday school children in Brooklyn today will be a pretty spectacle.

THE FIRST YACHT RACE of the season in New York waters occurred yesterday. Four catboats of the Atlantic Yacht Club raced for a pennant, which was won by the Nomad.

ANOTHER REVOLUTION has been attempted in St. Domingo, and this time the trouble is said to be the maladministration of the finances. Fortunately for our peace the island was not annexed.

THE JOCKEY CLUB, at its meeting last night, adopted rules for the regulation of betting, which will be of interest to the sporting community. The new rules are almost an exact copy of Tattersall's.

A DESPATCH from the city of Mexico states that Diaz's popularity is increasing. As reports of this character not infrequently precede the sudden departure of a successful chief from the country the situation may be as pleasantly uncertain as usual.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S BIRTHDAY was celebrated with great enthusiasm yesterday at Petersburg, Va., and delegations from Canada and all parts of the United States participated in the ceremonies. Such events do much to strengthen the friendship between the two great English speaking nations of the world.

THE HOME FOR DOGS.—The dogs of the city already begin to reap the benefits of the dog show. Mr. Henry Bergh has just received from the Westminster Club a check for \$1,290, half of the profits of the last exhibition. This sum is to be used to build a home for destitute, aged or invalid dogs, irrespective of color, where they may pass their days in peace, undisturbed and undisturbed. The scheme is an excellent one, and as the home can be built at a cost of ten thousand dollars the rest of the fund will be, doubtless, soon obtained.

THE RACES YESTERDAY.—There was fine weather and a full attendance at the Baltimore races yesterday, and five exciting contests, of which the most important were that for the Chesapeake Stakes, won by Mr. Lordillard's Italia, and the mile heats for four-year-olds, in which Mr. Doswell's Outcast was the victor. The opening day at Louisville was equally successful. The principal event was the Kentucky Derby, in which the favorite, Leonard, was beaten by Baden Baden. There were also trotting contests at Poughkeepsie and Point Breeze Park, and the full results of all the events are picturesquely narrated in our correspondence.

THE HEAVY RAINS in the West have caused a rise in all the rivers tributary to the Missouri and Kansas. Our special despatch from Kansas City describes the serious interruption of railroad traffic and damage to the lines. A large area of country is liable to inundation if the rise of the waters is greater at Lawrence than has been known for twenty years. The recent warm spell in the West has melted a great deal of snow on the upper watersheds of the rivers, and this, with the heavy and continuous rains, has contributed to swell the floods pouring down into the low, flat valleys approaching the Mississippi River. We recently called earnest attention to the necessity of preparing the levees for such heavy freshets, and hope that some steps have been taken to that end.

THE WEATHER.—Except in the Northwest the barometer continues below the mean of thirty inches east of the Rocky Mountains, being lowest in the Ohio Valley and the Middle and Eastern States. The storm has now reached the coast of the Middle States, but will probably move northward, toward Newfoundland, when it comes fairly within the influence of the Gulf stream, the westerly range of which is approaching the coast to its summer limit. Much rain has fallen along the lower lakes and through the Middle States. The northern line of the area of temperature above 70 degrees extends from New York to Cincinnati, Kokuk and Leavenworth having receded from the lakes and northwest very considerably. It is a very warm in the Southwest. Indications of the approach of another depression from the Northwest are given by the wind directions west of the Mississippi. High winds have prevailed along the lakes and in the Ohio Valley, also attending the storm centre on the coast. In New York to-day it will be cooler and cloudy or partly cloudy, possibly with light rain, and followed by colder and clearing weather.

Specie Payments and a Double Standard of Value.

A passage in the recent speech of Secretary Everts at the Chamber of Commerce banquet has been widely copied and commented on by the press of the country as foreshadowing an intention on the part of the new administration to favor the remonetization of silver and make it, as it was before the civil war, equally with gold an unlimited tender for the payment of debts. Senator Sherman, to whose department this subject more immediately belongs, was not present at the banquet, and had it been convenient for him to attend he might have hesitated to commit himself more explicitly than Mr. Everts did on a question with which he will have to deal officially and responsibly when Congress meets. The vague but significant intimations of Mr. Everts were probably thrown out as a feeler to public opinion, and neither the administration nor the Secretary of the Treasury will be bound by them if the drift of financial opinion should prove to be adverse. The remarks of Mr. Everts show that the administration regards the double standard as an open question and that it has at least a leaning toward its re-establishment. We learn from trustworthy private sources that Secretary Sherman is bestowing much careful thought upon this question and inclines at present to favor the re-establishment of silver as a full legal tender except for paying the interest and principal of our national bonds. If the experiment is to be tried this is a wise reservation, for if silver and gold can be maintained at an equal value it will be no more burdensome to the government to pay in one metal than in the other, while a fear that silver might depreciate would obstruct the sale of the new bonds, into which it is the obvious interest of the country to refund the public debt. We approve of this exception, and think that the rehabilitation of silver as a legal tender for other purposes is a fair question for discussion, although we would not wish to see it decided without a thorough sifting of the arguments pro and con. In the present aspect of the question we think there is a great deal to be said in favor of the policy toward which the administration is understood to lean; and regarding the noteworthy passage in the speech of Mr. Everts as a feeler to draw out an expression of public opinion, we are willing to state the favorable view, reserving our ultimate judgment until the question shall have been more fully discussed.

So far as the question of specie payments is concerned we have no doubt at all that the remonetization of silver would promote that much to be desired consummation. Preparation for specie payments implies a large reserve of coin for redeeming the greenbacks as they are presented. It is self-evident that this indispensable reserve can be accumulated with less trouble and expense with two metals than with one. If we should attempt to resume on gold alone we should disturb all the money markets of Europe in accumulating the necessary reserve, and those markets would have strong motives for attempting to thwart us. But if we redeem in silver as well as gold we shall meet no similar obstruction in accumulating a reserve of silver. With a bi-metallic currency we should have the great advantage of drawing upon two sources of supply instead of one; and in drawing on the silver source we should encounter no opposition, because our policy would not affect the money market of Europe. It is self-evident that we cannot resume without a large coin reserve, and equally self-evident that we can acquire this necessary reserve with more ease and facility if we restore silver to the place it occupied before we went into the experiment of irredeemable paper. The remonetization of silver would put us precisely where we stood sixteen years ago, before the paper legal tender was tried; not an ideally perfect situation, perhaps, but one a great deal better than an inconvertible paper currency. There can be no doubt in any sane mind that we could resume specie payments more easily on the basis of both metals than on gold alone. There would be less expense of time and trouble in accumulating the necessary reserves, and we should be more secure against a drain of our coin to Europe if it consisted in part of a metal for which the nations of Western Europe have but a moderate demand. So far as the experiment of specie payments is liable to be obstructed by a foreign drain of coin we should be altogether more secure with the double standard than with gold alone.

It may be plausibly objected that our domestic currency would be liable to fluctuations in value if we should restore silver to the old position which it held previous to the war. Even if we were to admit that this objection has all the force claimed by those who urge it it would still remain inconceivably true that the fluctuations in the value of our currency would be limited to the fluctuations in the value of silver. A paper currency redeemable in silver would be always worth its face value in silver dollars, and would be a great deal more stable than the irredeemable greenbacks. Silver, even in the unsettled and abnormal condition of the silver market for the last two years, has not varied in value so much as the money of countries which are afflicted with an irredeemable paper currency. If the fluctuations in the value of our currency could be confined to the fluctuations in the market value of silver our monetary system would be much more stable than it is. It would be a great gain to make our domestic currency as stable as the value of silver. But if silver were remonetized in the United States its value would fluctuate very little. The main reason for the variations in the value of silver for the last few years is the substitution of gold in the currency of Germany, which threw large amounts of silver on the market; but the resumption of its use for money in the United States would create a permanent market and prevent great variations in its price. If, ten or twenty years hence, we should think it expedient to substitute a single for a double standard it might be a wise measure then; but, with the immediate problems which confront us now, there would be a great and undoubted

advantage in remonetizing silver and making it a legal tender equally with gold. It would remove one of the chief obstacles to an early resumption of specie payments; it would give us a currency whose fluctuations would be slight in comparison with the fluctuations of an irredeemable paper money; it would disarm the opposition of our Western States to the resumption of specie payments; it would put us in the same monetary position in which we stood previous to the civil war, which was altogether preferable in point of stability to that which we have suffered under the régime of irredeemable paper. In point of strict logic and ideal perfection a single standard may be preferable; but between our irredeemable greenbacks and a currency which could always be exchanged for its face value in silver the difference would be very wide and a great gain on the side of stability. If, at the beginning of the experiment, the value of our silver coins were adjusted to the market value of gold the subsequent variation would be very slight indeed.

The Latest War News.

While the Russians are massing their forces on the Middle Danube and preparing their pontoons for a crossing into Bulgaria the Turks are making a threatening demonstration with their iron-clads and transports against the coast east of Odessa, as well as bombarding Adler. It is hinted that arrangements have been made to remove the Russian torpedo boats guarding the entrance of the Dnieper near Kinburn by the employment of divers for that purpose. But such an enterprise is hardly likely to be successful, especially if the Russians explode a few of these submarine mines as a warning not to come too close. The retreat of the Turkish garrison of Ardahan is announced. This movement indicates an intention to dispute the march of the Russians from Batoum through the Tschurukon Valley in case they succeed in turning the Turkish position at that town. But a counter-movement by the Russians can force this body of Turks to the seacoast or toward Batoum, and thus keep them from joining Mukhtar Pacha at Bardes. Indeed, the line of retreat selected proves that they could not have reached Bardes on account of the Russian forces in the vicinity. The report of an advance of a Turkish force from Van on Bajazid is probably untrue, for a Russian column already occupies the road in force, and Bajazid is safe against a coup de main. Besides, a strong Russian force occupies Dyadin, less than twenty miles west of Bajazid and fifteen miles from the road leading to Van. The efforts of the Turks to raise an insurrection in the Crimea are causing some uneasiness in Russia. No movement, however, has yet taken place on the peninsula. Greece is bent on war with Turkey. In this event a modification of the disposition of the Ottoman army will become necessary.

The Custom House Investigation.

The commission appointed by Secretary Sherman for investigating the affairs of the New York Custom House has brought to light many abuses which require correction. So far as we have read the testimony they are abuses which cannot be redressed by the Collector of the Port, but only by the administrative authority at Washington and by Congress. Our absurd tariff, with its double system of specific and ad valorem duties on the same articles, is so cumbersome and perplexing that it destroys all possibility of simple and efficient administration, and creates a necessity for a great multitude of employees who would not be needed if the revenue laws were revised in conformity with business principles and common sense. In the next place, the method of making appointments is scandalously vicious and subversive of all the conditions of efficient service. This is not the fault of any collector of customs who may be transiently in office, nor the separate fault of any administration which may happen to be in power at Washington. It is an ineradicable abuse of long standing. Its history dates back more than thirty years. It is part and parcel of the spoils system which has so long debased our federal politics and which makes public offices rewards of partisan service. The New York Custom House has been for two generations the foulest political nest, the nest which has hatched and harbored more unclean birds than any other which has been sheltered and protected by the federal government. The greater part of the customs revenue of the country being collected in this port there is a necessity for quite a little army of employees, and where so many are needed it is easy to foist in supernumeraries without attracting observation. The consequence is that the New York Custom House has been, time out of mind, the great federal hospital for decayed politicians, and a general soup kitchen for the favorites of men in power. The Collector has had little choice in the selection of his subordinates. Among the swarms of needy people who come to him seeking situations he is obliged to reject many; but he must be a very courageous Collector, indeed, who does not think twice before rejecting an applicant who brings a soap ticket from a Senator, Congressman or Cabinet officer known to stand high in the favor of the President. This is a thing which an ordinary collector seldom dares to do, because he knows that he would hazard his own place by refusing places or failing to make places for the named, the halt and the blind who come to him recommended and urged by politicians whom the administration at Washington does not wish to offend or estrange. However able, honest and efficient a collector may be in other respects, in this respect he is the mere slave of a bad system and the puppet of politicians more powerful in high quarters than himself.

All honest men must approve and applaud the intention of President Hayes to overhaul and break up this pestilential nest of abuses and must wish him success in the undertaking. But this kind of reforming zeal, is easy to a new administration, is so liable to be obstructed by political exigencies of which a new President and a new Cabinet have as yet no experience, that we can as yet only praise the intention and reserve our

judgment of the success. President Hayes has a party to manage as well as a revenue service to reform, and when he comes to think it vital to the credit of his administration that the elections of particular States should not go against him he may modify his views as to permitting the Custom House to be used as a party machine. But so far as he has yet gone he deserves public approbation.

Green Statesmen to the Front.

President Hayes is a happy illustration of the truth of the old proverb that a man had better be born lucky than rich. A man who is fortunate in his friends is often envied; but how much more enviable is one who is fortunate, also, in his enemies! If he could have picked out the men who in his own party should oppose his Southern policy in order to help its popularity the soundest judgment would have selected just those—the Camerons, Blaines, Chancellors, the machine politicians in general—who have opposed it. And now that he comes to the specie payment problem, behold! another set of opponents is sent by kind Heaven to strengthen his position before the country and drive public opinion to his side. Mr. Henry C. Baird, Mr. William D. Kelley and Senator Jones, of Nevada, unite to demand the dismissal of Secretary Sherman. We offer our respectful congratulations to Mr. Sherman.

Mr. Baird says the United States will become like Turkey unless Mr. Sherman is turned out. Mr. Kelley prances forward upon his "incontrovertible bond" and declares the country ruined unless Mr. Sherman is sent back to Ohio. And last comes Senator Jones, with a huge bundle of his in his bonnet, who also protests against Mr. Sherman. It is all very funny, and it will be funnier yet when Mr. George H. Pendleton joins this trio and turns it into a quartet of protesting statesmen. Of Senator Jones' little game a Washington correspondent tells us elsewhere; and if the tale is true Mr. Jones is the most unmitigated paper money man of the day. He demands a permanent, irredeemable issue of so many dollars per head of greenbacks, to be increased annually with the increase of our population. As for Mr. Carey, he only wishes that he shall not be like Turkey. He holds that a revival of business is impossible with a decreasing amount of currency; which is as though the late A. T. Stewart had shouted for a large increase in the number of yardsticks as a certain means of enabling him to develop his dry goods trade.

We repeat our respectful congratulations to Secretary Sherman. He is almost as lucky as the President.

The Disaster at Chester.

There are rules, we suppose, which lose much of their force when they become too familiar to those they are intended to govern. "Familiarity breeds contempt" is an old adage, for which everyday life unfortunately furnishes too many illustrations. We hear of experienced railroad employees being killed while doing that against which they are supposed to caution ordinary people. Old miners lose their lives by working in coal pits without safety lamps, and so on with the list of disasters that are directly due to too much familiarity with danger and a consequent reckless disregard of it. Perhaps it would be too much to say that the men who lost their lives yesterday morning at the Chester ship launch should not have put themselves in such imminent danger without seeing that the proper precautions were taken for their safety. They had worked on the new ship for a long time and had been under her keel many times a day without realizing for a moment that the snapping of a brace or a shoring timber would cost them their lives. They simply assumed, therefore, that when the proper time came for retiring to a place of safety they would be notified. But they were not. The foreman thought his men heard him, and without waiting to be satisfied that they did, he let the great ship, already beginning to move by her own weight, go on her ways and crush these poor creatures out of all semblance to human shape. Is it possible that the mechanical appliances of the shipyard were so poor as to necessitate the endangering of so many lives? Was time so precious that a quarter of an hour could not be spared to see that all was clear before the launch took place? If the foreman were about to explode a large mine instead of launching a ship would he not have satisfied himself that everybody was properly warned of the coming danger? The common caution that should surround the moving of a sack of potatoes was not exhibited in this case, or so many mangled corpses would not now bear silent witness against the perpetrator of that most fatal of crimes—reckless management.

Superintendent Ellis.

Mr. Ellis probably imagines himself an unfortunate man, but he is, in fact, one of the luckiest mortals we know of. After many months of an exposure which would have killed more sensitive persons and would have caused the removal in disgrace, and, perhaps, the imprisonment of less fortunate ones, he still hangs on to his place and is still on trial. Day after day the investigation brings out facts in regard to his mismanagement of one of the most sacred of trusts, any one of which would crush a man of honor and lead him to resign his place and fly from the scorn of his fellow citizens; and yet he retains his place and the republican Senate refuses to turn him out, he being a republican.

Among the latest developments is a letter, the existence of which the HERALD mentioned last October. In January, 1875, a false statement of the condition of the Third Avenue Savings Bank was made, under oath by two of its officers, to the Bank Superintendent. On March 24 the official bank examiner, Mr. George W. Reid, having overhauled the bank, sent to Mr. Ellis his official report, with a letter calling attention to its details, which showed not only that the bank was rotten, but that, as he writes, "the rats were leaving the sinking ship," a number of the trustees, aware of the bank's condition, having resigned. Yet, with this report before him, Mr. Ellis allowed the bank to go on six months longer, and finally consented to the

appointment as receiver of one of the very officers who had made a sworn false report of its condition.

It seems incredible that, with such facts before the Senate, that body still hesitates to remove Mr. Ellis. We spoke sharply to Governor Tilden because he did not suspend the Banking Superintendent; but Governor Robinson has done his duty; he has reported to the Senate Mr. Ellis' delinquencies; the Senate is responsible that he still retains his place, for it is evident that Ellis will not resign.

The Bank Tax.

We trust the Assembly will agree to the amendments placed by the Senate on the bill relieving the banks of the unjust and oppressive part of their taxes. We say this not in the interest of the banks, but of the public. Mr. Sprague, speaking from his knowledge of the banks of Buffalo, said yesterday that taxes, rents and necessary expenses amount in the aggregate to seven per cent, and to exist the banks must charge ten or twelve per cent for loans. Now it is very easy to say, as we notice some of the Albany statesmen suggest, that the banks must take care of themselves; but they overlook the fact that banks are useful, and even necessary institutions to a civilized community. Their use is to save trouble and time to the thousands of borrowers and lenders in the community; to make money more quickly available and to a greater number of people. The ignorance which would tax the banks out of existence or force them to require abnormally high rates of interest is of the same kind as that which would curtail the docking facilities of a seaport, by obliging the pier owners to pay higher taxes. It is very possible, by an injudicious and oppressive policy, to drive capital into neighboring States; it will not be so easy to recall it when we want it.

We hope, therefore, the bill, as it has been passed by the Senate, will become a law. Both justice and good policy require the measure. In other States the commercial and manufacturing interests are receiving favorable and in many cases very thorough and wise consideration. New York has gone on for years in a very haphazard and helterskelter way; but we cannot afford to give our rivals too many advantages.

Rapid Transit at Albany.

The only bill in the interest of rapid transit which has any chance of passing at this late stage, when the Legislature is about to adjourn, is the one introduced in the Senate some time since by Mr. Selkreg, continuing the franchises of such companies as were organized under the general railroad act of 1860, and giving them a further space of five years for completing their roads. The bill does not grant this privilege to defunct companies, but only to such as have actually expended money on their enterprises and give satisfactory evidence of an earnest purpose to prosecute the work. The effect of this bill, if it becomes a law, will be merely to disembarass the most hopeful and promising of the projected rapid transit roads of obstructive legal proceedings, instituted for mere purposes of delay. We trust that all true friends of rapid transit in the Legislature will do their best to aid the passage of this bill before the adjournment.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Mrs. Ann Eliza Young is in Cincinnati. Rumanian countrymen play bagpipes. Louisville has a plenty of lottery offices. The Hungarians are nothing if not picturesque. There is an epidemic of crime in Paris. London is to have hospitals for well-to-do people. In Bucharest the streets in summer are very dusty. There are few bachelors and old maids in Bucharest. The Mobile Register wants government aid for the South.

Cracker crumbs are better than bread crumbs for cutlets.

The Duchess of Edinburgh dresses richly and is very tasteful.

William Lloyd Garrison and son will sail for Europe this week.

At English watering places there are popular pier promenades.

Texas wheat is so high that grasshoppers have to walk on stilts.

How are now placed carelessly on any part of the waist or shoulders.

Clara Morris will summer with her husband at Riverside, on the Hudson.

Alexander Main insists that the analysis of a simple fact leads to Pantheism.

The Pope was very cheerful when he sat for his photograph three weeks ago.

Captain William Gore Jones, naval attaché of the British Legation at Washington, is at the Clarendon.

The Princess Beatrice does not care much for fine dresses, but loves pale pink trimmed with Honiton lace.

Carbolic acid applied with a brush will kill weeds.

A better way is to puncture the weed and pour acid on the spot.

Professor Zeller points out that the heathen poems have been revived by many recent assassins of the Gospel.

In Germany there are fewer railway accidents than in any other country which possesses a considerable railway system.

In the Kingdom of Prussia, among 6,000,000 births, there were seventy-nine cases of four at a birth and one case of five at a birth.

The Victoria Colonist is afraid that in case England goes to war with Russia a fleet of the latter Power might capture that place easily.

The Pall Mall Gazette says it is a mistake to suppose that murderers do not care for the gallows, for that is the only thing they do care for.

St. J. Tyrwhitt says: "One man may be elevated by a photograph of forms; another will only fall lower by gazing over Fisher's Archway."

The Cologne Gazette says that the Hungarians are a hot blooded, passionate people, inclined to be noisy and to call Kossuth a saint and martyr.

Schumann: "Beethoven looks very different from Mozart on paper; the difference resembles that between Jean Paul's and Goethe's prose."

A Boston newspaper writes that recently there was a great uprising of the Poles, but that some one stole in the night and pulled them down.

Ladies' boots and shoes will have straps across the front, with small buttons in the centre. Between these straps the fancy stockings will show.

John Roseberry, an English pedlar, is 108 years old. He takes a little warm beer every day, and finds his principal food in sugar, which he dissolves in tea.

The effect of anger upon the brain is to produce first a paralysis and afterward congestion of the vessels of that organ. Many die in one or other of these two stages.

Three extinct species of elephant have been found in the island of Malta, which clearly proves that during the pliocene epoch a connection existed between South Europe and North Africa.

The Rev. Mr. Haweis, an English authority on music, grows rapturous over Wagner, and says that he is the most powerful personality who has appeared in the musical world since Beethoven.

General William T. Sherman and Colonel John E. Tourtelotte, of the General's staff, arrived at the Fifth Avenue last evening from Providence. To-day they will pay a visit of inspection to West Point.

THE WAR.

Active Russian Preparations for the Passage of the Danube.

THE GRAND STRUGGLE AT HAND.

Turkish Activity on the Black Sea—Carrying the War Into Russian Territory.

OPERATIONS IN ASIA.

Roumania, Servia and Greece Preparing for the Ordeal of Battle.

WAR PREPARATIONS IN ENGLAND.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, May 23, 1877.

From the news which comes from the east this morning it is evident that operations of a decisive character and on an extensive scale are close at hand. The Russians are pushing their preparations for the passage of the Danube with a vigor which shows that they do not underestimate the opposition they will meet with from the Ottoman forces. The Turks, on the other hand, are displaying great energy on the Black Sea coast, and are evidently determined to give the Russians plenty of occupation on their own territory and to stir up revolt among the disaffected Mohammedan subjects of the Czar. From Asia we hear of Kurds and Bashi-Bazouks hurrying to swell the Turkish ranks, while Roumania and Greece are daily assuming a more warlike attitude. On all sides, therefore, the news would seem to indicate the near approach of a conflict that will decide the conditions on which the struggle is to be continued.

PREPARING FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE DANUBE.

A Rastchuck despatch, dated Monday, says:—Great preparations are being made by the Russians for an attempt to pass the river between Rahova and Nikopolis. They have brought down by rail to the bank pontoon bridges and small steamers, and are erecting large fortifications at Ialaitz and Turnu-Magurele. Continual concentration of troops in the direction of Simlitz is observable. The Turks are fully prepared to resist the attempt. A despatch from Turtuka, Monday evening, reports that forty-two Russian battalions, three batteries of artillery and some cavalry have just arrived on the opposite side of the river at Olteita. An attack is expected. A Galatz special of the same date. Yesterday the Russians, crossing in boats from Ibrail to Ghicet, burned the latter place. The Russians have dismounted their Barabochi fortifications, considering them of no further use, as from Ibrail to Reni the river is sufficiently protected by strong batteries and torpedoes.

All indications betoken that the Russians are making a serious movement on Western Bulgaria. The Danube rose nine inches between Sunday and Monday.

THE RUSSIAN BLACK SEA COAST TERRITORY.

An Odessa letter in the Political Correspondence states that the military commander of the south coast has taken measures to defend Odessa against a coup de main by concentrating there a force of three brigades of infantry, eight sotnias of Cossacks and six squadrons of light cavalry. The Thirteenth corps d'armee is to be employed in the defence of the coast line from Ochakoff to Ackerman. According to signals of the coast guard, Odessa seems less threatened than Ochakoff. Great care has been bestowed of late on this fortress, which, with the works at Kinburn, protects the entrance to the bay and mouths of the Dnieper, and consequently Nikolai, the only shipbuilding place thereabouts since the destruction of Sebastopol. For some days past Turkish vessels have been cruising there, seemingly with troops on board. Great stores of provisions and ammunition are accumulated at Nikolai, and in the event of the Turks rendering the Ochakoff torpedoes harmless, not only these stores and the shipbuilding yard, but also Kherson and other great towns on the Dnieper basin would be open to them. The Turkish squadron, consisting of two monitors, three iron-clad frigates, several small vessels and a whole flotilla of barks, supposed to have volunteers on board, are cruising about in the waters of Sebastopol and Eupatoria.

CARRYING THE WAR INTO RUSSIAN TERRITORY.

It is reported this fleet will not be satisfied with bombarding places on the coast, but also means to excite an insurrectionary movement in the Crimea. It cannot be denied that the spirit beginning to show itself in the population is not calculated to inspire much confidence. The south coast of the Crimea is now almost entirely occupied by Mohammedans. A telegram from St. Petersburg says:—A despatch dated Rostoch, Tuesday, reports that the Turks attacked the Russian position at Adler. A severely contested engagement ensued. A Turkish man-of-war has been violently bombarding Adler since ten o'clock Tuesday morning.

THE CAMPAIGN IN ASIA.

The intelligence comes from Erzeroum that the troops composing the garrison at Ardahan have retreated to Ardanduch. A Russian column has left Kars to reinforce the central division before Kars. A St. Petersburg despatch says 3,500 Kurds, 12,000 bashi-bazouks, five infantry battalions and seven guns are moving northward from Lake Van to join the Turkish forces at Kura-Kales. The Turkish detachment which was expected to attack Bajazid has fallen back toward Lake Van. The body of the Turkish chief of staff was found among the slain at Ardahan. A despatch from Constantinople received last night says that since the capture of Ardahan the Russians appear to be preparing for a vigorous attack on Kars. A later despatch from Erzeroum reports that the Russian column has driven the Turks from their positions at Karadheuran, a village near Kars.

The Abkhazians are in full insurrection. Arms have been distributed to them. The Sultan has ordered the purchase of 20,000 revolvers, to be paid for from his private purse, for distribution in the Caucasus.

EFFECTS OF THE VICTORY AT ARDAHAN.

A Vienna correspondent remarks that the fall of Ardahan, besides securing to the Russians their position before Kars, opens out a new line of operations entirely against Kars or Erzeroum. The Council of Ministers at Constantinople on Sunday determined to send all reinforcements still arriving in Constantinople to Batoum and Erzeroum. The authorities at Constantinople seem to overlook the fact that these troops, in making their way to Kars or Erzeroum, would have to break through the Russian division barring the way at the Tschurukon. Indeed, the advance of the Russians against Batoum seems to have been undertaken with the aim of locking up these thirty-four battalions of Turks, preventing them or any other reinforcements from getting to the Tschurukon line to Erzeroum or the other threatened points.

THE ROMANIAN DECLARATION.

The following is the resolution adopted by the Roumanian Senate and Chamber of Deputies on Monday:—"This Chamber takes note that war is proclaimed between Roumania and Turkey, and declares connection between the two countries dissolved. The